

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY – 23 JUNE 2015

REPORT BY EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING

JOINT STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT (JSNA) – SETTING THE EVIDENCE SCENE

WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALL

Purpose/Summary of Report

- To give new Members on the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee an insight into the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and health data and its application to their role in scrutiny of public health areas and outcomes.

RECOMMENDATIONS: FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

That:

(A)	JSNA and health data sources are acknowledged as being a central focus of the evidence required for effective scrutinising of public health areas and outcomes;
(B)	Members encourage use of these data sources at local level and encourage Parish and Town Councils to promote this information on their websites;
(C)	Members identify further training needs regarding the JSNA or health data sources; and
(D)	Members agree the feedback on the usability and possible improvements to the JSNA

1.0 Background

On 16 October 2013 the Council approved its second Public Health Strategy, the East Herts Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013-2018. The new strategy combines the public health wellbeing, prevention and protection principles of the first East

Herts Public Health Strategy alongside the life course approach linked with the central aspects of environmental, social, health economic and population factors. This strategy seeks to mainstream the public health role within the Council and its partners, recognising the contribution and joint working by different services (both inter-departmental and external). .

1.2 The role of the JSNA and health data as means of evidence to help inform and direct delivery of projects and support partners health and wellbeing outcomes is essential. By using health data and other sources of local knowledge a more defined and connected picture can be built up of a local area and its health characteristics. If this information is understood well, then it can help to make decisions about where to focus particular projects and which sections of the East Herts community can benefit most.

2.0 Report

2.1 The JSNA presentation has been produced to help Members to see the range of information available to them. The aim is to see the value and relevance of health data to their new roles.

2.2 Recognising the importance of the JSNA, the previous Health and Wellbeing Panel requested to receive a presentation on the JSNA at the first Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee meeting.

2.3 To effectively scrutinise public health matters then an understanding of health data and public health approaches is required. In particular an understanding of the way in which health inequalities can be reduced through tackling different health determining factors is important.

2.4 The impact of strategic health prevention on reducing acute admissions and addressing the long term health of the population is vital. Applying this knowledge to see when health outcomes have been effectively met is an important scrutiny attribute. This introduction seeks to build a foundation on which this knowledge base can be added to and provides a number of additional health information sources to research further.

2.5 Presentation format

The presentation consists of the following sections listed below:

- What can the JSNA do for us?

- HWB Scrutiny and its role in impacting health inequalities
- Sources of Health data
- HWB Scrutiny Committee task to complete (prior to 23/06/15 meeting)
- Feedback from members
- Summary

Full details of the content can be seen in the **Essential Reference Paper 'B'**.

3.0 Implications/Consultations

3.1 Information on any corporate issues and consultation associated with this report can be found within **Essential Reference Paper 'A'**.

Background Papers

- East Herts Public Health Strategy ([link](#))
- East Herts Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013-2018 ([link](#))

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